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The Rainfall of California. By A. G. McAdie. Maps. *Univ. of California Public. in Geogr.*, Vol. 1, 1914, No. 4, pp. 127-240. Berkeley. $1. 11 x 7½.

An excellent, clean-cut and readable monograph comes as a fitting contribution from Professor A. G. McAdie at the end of his long term of service as local forecast official of the Weather Bureau at San Francisco. It is a satisfaction to see the emphasis which is here laid upon the conditions and controls of rainfall, instead of the usual method of presenting only the bare facts of amounts and distribution. The author clearly brings out the importance of the control exercised by the permanent centers of action, as well as by the temporary cyclones and anticyclones. In other words, weather is here considered, as well as climate. We note, *e. g.*, charts of sea-level pressures and of the paths of low and high areas in typical ''wet'' and ''dry'' winter months. The excess of rainfall in one of the former was approximately 43,000,000 acre feet, and the deficiency in one of the latter was about 33,000,000 acre feet. The economic significance of such conditions is easily appreciated.

We are glad to note the emphasis laid upon topography, and to see photographic reproductions of models of California and of southern California. Such illustrations are a great help to those who are studying the data contained in the report. Special attention is paid to the long-period record for San Francisco; to the variation of rainfall with altitude, and to the snowfall at Summit, for which station there are thirty-five years of observations. The annual amount of snowfall at this place has twice exceeded 775 inches in thirty-five years. There is an interesting discussion of the rate of snow melting, and Fig. 10 shows a photograph of a highly ingenious model, devised by Professor McAdie, which has made possible a comparison of the actual curve of melting for any given season with the mean curve, so that the probable date of the snow's disappearance may be determined. A chart shows the rainfall of California on the basis of thirty years of records, and the monthly distribution of rainfall at selected stations is shown in a diagram. Other illustrations are of the prevailing winds of the Pacific Ocean, and of the ocean currents off the coast of California. Detailed studies of this kind are needed for every state in the Union. R. DEC. WARD.

Report of the Meteorological Station at Berkeley, Cal., for the Year ending June 30, 1913. By William G. Reed. *Univ. of Cal. Public. in Geogr.*, Vol. 1, 1914, No. 6, pp. 247-306. Map, ills. 60 cents. 10½ x 7.

Mr. Reed's report of the University of California meteorological station is a model one in every respect. Complete, systematic, thoroughly up with the times, it might well be taken as a pattern for similar reports elsewhere. Among the many features which especially deserve attention and commendation are the careful description of the instruments and of their exposure (the latter clearly illustrated by three contour maps and four photographs); the adoption of the new C. G. S. units; the clear tabulation and discussion of the cyclonic control and classification of the rainfalls—a sadly neglected and most essential feature in meteorological and climatic summaries; and, finally, the excellent diagrams. R. DEC. WARD.

Summaries of Climatological Data by Sections. Vol. 1: Sections 1 to 57, inclusive, embracing the sections west of the Mississippi River. Vol. 2: Sections 58 to 106 inclusive, embracing the sections east of the Mississippi River. Maps, diagrams. *Weather Bur. Bull. W.* Washington, 1912. 11½ x 9½.

Whenever a large amount of statistical data of any sort has been collected, it is a great help to have them summarized in compact and serviceable form. *Bulletin W* contains all the essential climatological data of the United States which are likely to be needed for everyday use by those whose work or interests concern our climate. A very large mass of numerical material is here brought together in a convenient form for ready reference, and